OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

REC-31

TO: Mr. Conrad

DATE: 12/4/63

FROM: R. H. Jevons

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

On 12/3/63, SAC Henry Sloan at Quantico received a telephone call from Melvin N. Johnson, President, Johnson Guns, Incorporated, 152 Tempo Street, New Haven 10, Connecticut, regarding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

SAC Sloan advised by memorandum dated 12/4/63, that Johnson stated he believed no more than one second could have elapsed between the first and second shots. This estimate was based on his examination of the pictures in Life magazine of November 29, 1963, which were reprinted from a movie taken by an amateur photographer, considering the reported speed of the automobile in relation to the people and tree in the background of the movie. (Copy of SAC Sloan's memo attached.)

A careful study of the movie in question was made and it shows Mr. Johnson to be in error. It is pointed out that the photographs printed in Life magazine do not show the complete sequence of the movie and the write-up accompanying these photographs does not accurately indicate the time of the first shot.

From careful timing of the film, the most accurate estimate* possible gives seven seconds as the interval between the first and third shot with the second shot occurring approximately in the middle of the seven-second interval.

It should be noted that of the assassination sequence in Life magazine only 13 of the approximate 110 frames are represented.

ACTION: For information.

62-109060
Enclosure
1 - Mr. Tolson
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Casper, Attention: Mr. Sloan
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Bartlett, Room 845 RB
1 - Mr. Handley, Room 5710
1 - Mr. Turner, Room 649 RB

CBC:DLJ (15)

NOTE: *The above estimate is based on a normal speed of 16 frames per second.
A check is being made to ascertain the actual speed of the amateur photographer's camera. Regardless of this speed, however, the second shot occurred in the middle of the time interval.

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